THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" Yes, Sir, Government will consider the suggestion of the hon. Member for future elections."

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" Are the Government aware of the fact that polling stations were not arranged in all the villages in Malabar as was done during the general elections."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Hon. Minister has already answered the question."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, Fort Cochin which had nine polling stations last time had only one this time and Fort Cochin is scattered over an area of about 40 square miles. Will the Government be pleased to see that at least for every two miles distance, a polling station is established hereafter? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" Yes, Sir, for the next elections, the suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" Sir, the reduction in the number of polling stations resulted in thousands of voters not being able to go to the polling stations and exercise their franchise. Is there any special reason why the Government reduced the number of polling stations? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" There were no special reasons to reduce the polling stations. Polling stations were opened according to the instructions of the Election Officer. The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered when conducting the elections in future and polling stations opened to suit the conveniences of voters."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, what were the reasons that weighed with the Government and compelled them to reduce the number of polling stations opened during the general elections in Malabar alone while the same number of polling stations as were opened during the general elections were opened in the other districts? Only in Malabar the number was reduced. What was the reason that compelled them to do this? Did they apprehend that the Communists will come at the head of the District Board? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" There was no such motive behind the mind of the Government, Sir."

Payment of increments, allowed to elementary school teachers, to Pre-Vocational Instructors.

* 249 *Q.*—DR. K. B. MENON : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have recently received any representation from the Pre-Vocational Instructors' Association

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about the exclusion of Pre-Vocational Instructors from the former increment of Rs. 2 and the present increment of Rs. 3 given to elementary school teachers; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) Government are examining the matter."

Import of transformers.

* 250 *Q*.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of transformers purchased by Government from outside the country for use in this State; and

(*b*) the amount spent for the same?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) 807 transformers during the period from 1947 to 1954.

" (*b*) Rs. 1·56 crores."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" ஸார், பங்களூரிலேயே குறைவான விலையில் நல்ல ட்ரான்ஸ்பார்மர்களைத் தயாரிக்க வாய்ப்பு இருக்கும்போது வெளிநாடுகளிலிருந்து இன்னும் ஏன் அவைகள் இறக்குமதி செய்யப்பட வேண்டும் ? நாட்டின் தேவைக்கேற்ப ட்ரான்ஸ்பார்மர்களை இந்த நாட்டிலேயே உற்பத்தி செய்வதற்கு சர்க்காரிடம் திட்டம் இருக்கிறதா ? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, we have to import transformers from abroad because in India they do not manufacture transformers above the capacity of 300 K.W.A. About transformers with a lesser capacity than this that are manufactured in India, there is complaint from the Department. We have made representations to the Government of India that they are not very reliable. That is the reason, Sir. As for producing them here itself more efficiently, we are not the authority concerned with that, Sir."

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" ஸார், மேட்டூர் இண்டஸ்ட்ரீசிலேயே இப்படிப்பட்ட ட்ரான்ஸ்பார்மர்களை உற்பத்தி செய்வதற்கு சர்க்கார் ஆலோசிப் பார்களா ? இது விஷயமாக மத்திய சர்க்காருடன் சென்னை சர்க்கார் கலந்தாலோசிப்பார்களா ? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

Irregularities in the Madurai Mills Co-operative Stores.

* 251 *Q*.—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Mr. Thirugnanasambandam of Madurai, sought permission of the